

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
Bureau of Customs and Border Protection

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2003

Marfa Border Patrol Agents Rescue 49 Illegal Aliens
Men, Women and Children Sealed in Wooden Boxes

MARFA, Texas – Border Patrol Agents from the Marfa Sector rescued 49 illegal aliens sealed into wooden boxes on two different 18-wheelers at the Sierra Blanca Checkpoint on Interstate 10 Monday night. The men, women and children had been loaded into a wooden box on a flat bed trailer that was nailed shut and covered with a tarpaulin.

Agents conducting immigration checks discovered one truck at the checkpoint containing 28 people. About 90 minutes later another truck with a similar box and tarpaulin was stopped with 21 people in the box. One group had one gallon of water and the other group had none. They were being transported from El Paso to Dallas.

“Once again alien smugglers demonstrate their lack of regard for human life,” said Chief Patrol Agent Simon Garza, Jr. “Many of these people could have died from being sealed into these boxes without ventilation and water.”

Both trucks were being driven by United States citizens who were placed under arrest and charged with alien smuggling.

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